

REMARKS

Applicant replies to the final Office Action dated December 11, with a one month extension of time. Claims of 1-6, 29, 32-37, 49-54, and 80-85 were pending in the application. The Examiner asserts that claims 1-4, 29-30, 32-35, 49-52 and 80-83 will be examined. Applicants cancel claims 33-34, 49-52 and 80-83 without prejudice to filing one or more claims having similar subject matter, in other applications. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objects the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees, but Applicant amends certain claims to expedite prosecution and to further conform to the drawings by removing the “press controlling means” from the claims.

The Examiner next objects to informalities in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant asserts that paragraph 00171 appropriately refers to Embodiment 7 and Applicant asserts that support for such embodiment is shown in Figure 18 and paragraph 00366. Applicant asserts that paragraph 00172 appropriately refers to Embodiment 7 and Applicant asserts that support for such embodiment is shown in Figure 19 and paragraph 00376. Applicant asserts that paragraph 00174 appropriately refers to Embodiment 8 and Applicant asserts that support for such embodiment is shown in Figure 21 and paragraph 00385.

The Examiner next asserts that various claims include clarity issues or typographical errors. Applicant amends the claims generally in line with the Examiner’s suggestions.

The Examiner next rejects claims 29, 30 and 32-35 under 35 USC 112 for lack of support for “breaking apparatus”. Applicant respectfully disagrees, but Applicant amends certain claims to expedite prosecution and to further clarify the claims. Applicant amends the claims in line with the Examiner’s suggestions.

The Examiner next rejects various claims under 35 USC 112 due to antecedent basis issues and vagueness. Applicant respectfully disagrees, but Applicant amends certain claims and cancel certain claims to expedite prosecution and to further clarify the claims. Applicant amends certain claims in line with the Examiner’s suggestions.

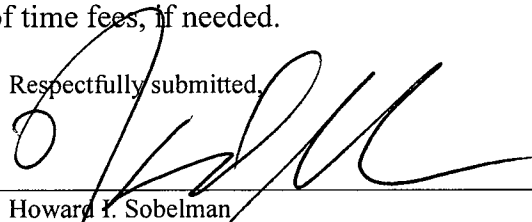
The Examiner next rejects claims 49-52 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Le Gras, US Patent No. 3,259,286 ("Le Gras"). The Examiner also rejects claims 1-4, 29 and 30 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by, or under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Le Gras. The Examiner also rejects claims 32-35 and 80-83 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Le Gras. Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections, but Applicant amends certain claims and cancel certain claims to expedite prosecution and to further clarify the claims.

Applicant asserts that Le Gras is limited to a pressing means formed in the shape of a groove. In contrast, the claimed invention includes a pressing means formed in the shape of an arc in view of the width direction. Such a shape is significant because it can forcibly widen the fragile base plate to provide a space between the areas of both sides of the scribing line forming onto the fragile base plate (see paragraph 00245). As such, Applicant asserts that Le Gras does not disclose or contemplate at least "wherein the pressing means is formed in the shape of an arc in view of the width direction," as recited by independent claim 1. Support for such amendment is found at, for example, paragraphs 00241 and 00245.

Dependent claims 2-4, 29-30, 32 and 35 variously depend from independent claim 1, so Applicant asserts that claims 2-4, 29-30, 32 and 35 are patentable for the same reasons as set forth above, in addition to their own respective features.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicant regards as the invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due or refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2814, including extension of time fees, if needed.

Respectfully submitted,



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